

## IN THE CLAIMS

1-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently amended) A method of routing a signaling link in a communication system which includes a transmitter and a receiver, the signaling link comprising ~~three~~four or more conductive lines that are routed along a path in parallel from the transmitter to the receiver, the method comprising:

equalizing a line-to-line coupling from each line to any one of the other lines in the link traversing an entire length of the link by arranging the link in segments, each segment featuring a routing change to reorder proximity of at least one pair of lines relative to any adjacent segment, with a sufficient number of segments such that each line has each of the other lines of the link as a nearest neighbor for at least a portion of the path.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46 further comprising configuring the signaling link for transmitting digital signals encoded in a manner to maintain a substantially constant number of binary ones and binary zeroes.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim 46, wherein the lines are routed such that spacing between adjacent lines is uniform across the ~~three~~four or more lines in the link within each segment and remains constant from segment to segment.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the line-to-line coupling between two lines traversing an entire length of the link is proportional to a sum of couplings over all segments.

50. (Currently amended) The method of claim 49, ~~wherein the signaling link comprising four or more conductive lines~~, wherein for each segment, the coupling of at least one pair of adjacent lines is different from any adjacent segment, and wherein the signaling link is segmented such that a ratio between a greatest and a least line-to-line couplings considering any pair of lines is no greater than 2 to 1.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein all segments have the same

length.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein at least two segments have different lengths.

53. (Currently amended) A signaling link comprising ~~three~~four or more conductive lines that are routed along a path from a start point to an end point comprising:

a first segment of the path in which a first one of the conductive lines bears a first relationship defined by a substantially constant relative distance along the path to a second one of the conductive lines, and a second relationship defined by a substantially constant relative distance to a third one of the conductive lines;

a second segment of the path in which the first one of the conductive lines bears a third relationship defined by a substantially constant relative distance along the path to the second one of the conductive lines, and a fourth relationship defined by a substantially constant relative distance to the third one of the conductive lines, where at least one of (a) the third relationship is not equal to the first relationship, or (b) the fourth relationship is not equal to the second relationship; and

a third segment of the path in which the first one of the conductive lines bears a fifth relationship defined by a substantially constant relative distance along the path to the second one of the conductive lines, and a sixth relationship defined by a substantially constant relative distance to the third one of the conductive lines, where (a) the fifth relationship is not equal to at least one of the first relationship or the third relationship, and (b) the sixth relationship is not equal to the at least one of the second relationship or the fourth relationship.

54. (Previously presented) The signaling link of claim 53, wherein the conductive lines are fabricated on a printed circuit board.

55. (Previously presented) The signaling link of claim 53, wherein the conductive lines are configured to transmit digital signals that are encoded to maintain a substantially constant number of binary ones and binary zeroes.

56. (Previously presented) The signaling link of claim 53, wherein all of the first, second,

and third segments have the same length.

57. (Previously presented) The signaling link of claim 53, wherein at least two of the first, second, and third segments have different lengths.

58. (Previously presented) The signaling link of claim 53, wherein a line-to-line coupling between two lines traversing an entire length of the link is proportional to a sum of couplings over all segments.

59. (Currently amended) The signaling link of claim 58, ~~wherein the signaling link comprising four or more conductive lines~~, wherein for each segment, the coupling of at least one pair of adjacent lines is different from any adjacent segment, and wherein the signaling link is segmented such that a ratio between a greatest and a least line-to-line couplings considering any pair of lines is no greater than 2 to 1.

60. (Currently amended) A signaling link comprising ~~three~~ four or more conductive lines comprising:

means for segmenting the link, each segment featuring a routing change to reorder proximity of at least one pair of lines relative to any adjacent segment, with a sufficient number of segments such that each line has each of the other lines of the link as a nearest neighbor for at least a portion of the path;

means for encoding data transmitted over the signaling link in a manner to maintain a substantially constant number of binary ones and binary zeros.

61. (Previously presented) The signaling link of claim 60 wherein the means for segmenting the link comprising routing the lines such that spacing between adjacent lines is uniform across the plurality of lines in the link within each segment and remains constant from segment to segment.